

Message Text

SECRET

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ACTION SS-30

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FM AMEMBASSY ROME

TO SECSTATE WASHDC NIACT IMMEDIATE 5535

S E C R E T ROME 8668

EXDIS

E.O.11652: GDS

TAGS: OVIP, IT

SUBJECT: SECRETARY'S VISIT TO ROME

1. WE ARE INFORMED THAT PRESIDENT LEONE WILL WISH TO OFFER LUNCH TO SECRETARY JULY 5TH. BECAUSE OF VERY TIGHT SCHEDULE IN ROME WE URGE THAT ARRIVAL FROM PARIS BE ADVANCED TO 1245. TENTATIVE SCHEDULE WOULD THEN BE AS FOLLOWS:

JULY 5-1245 ARRIVE ROME (CIAMPINO AIRPORT). ARRIVAL STATEMENT UPON DEPLANING.

1300 DEPART CIAMPINO FOR QUIRINAL PALACE.

1330 CALL ON PRESIDENT LEONE AT QUIRINAL PALACE.

FOREIGN MINISTER MORO WILL BE PRESENT.

1400 LUNCH OFFERED BY PRESIDENT LEONE.

1530 DEPART QUIRINALE FOR FOREIGN MINISTRY (FARNESINA).

1545 CONSULTATION WITH FOREIGN MINISTER MORO AT FARNESINA.

1630 DEPART FARNESINA FOR PRIME MINISTER'S OFFICE (PALAZZO CHIGI), ACCOMPANIED BY MORO.

1645 CALL ON PRIME MINISTER RUMOR AT CHIGI.

1745 DEPART CHIGI FOR VATICAN.

1800 AUDIENCE WITH HIS HOLINESS POPE PAUL VI

(N.B. EMBASSY IS REQUESTING AUDIENCE AND SUGGESTING THIS TIMING. WE WILL CONFIRM UPON OBTAINING VATICAN RESPONSE. DEPARTMENT MAY WISH TO INFORM SPECIAL ENVOY LODGE OF REQUESTED VATICAN CALL.)

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1830 DEPART VATICAN TO EMBASSY THEATER FOR PRESS

CONFERENCE.

1900 PRESS CONFERENCE IN EMBASSY THEATER.

1930 LEAVE EMBASSY FOR CIAMPINO.

2000 ARRIVE CIAMPINO FOR DEPARTURE.

2. ALTERNATIVE TO PRESS CONFERENCE IN EMBASSY THEATER WOULD BE DIRECT DEPARTURE FROM VATICAN TO CIAMPINO AIRPORT WHERE MEETING WITH PRESS WOULD BE LIMITED BY LESS THAN ADEQUATE FACILITIES AT AIRPORT. EMBASSY RECOMMENDS MEETING WITH PRESS, AND EMBASSY FACILITIES OFFER BEST OPTION. BRIEF MEETING WITH PRESS ON DEPARTURE AT CIAMPINO AND/OR DEPARTURE STATEMENT IS LESS DESIRABLE ALTERNATIVE.

3. EMBASSY RECOMMENDS EARLY ANNOUNCEMENT OF VISIT, AS SPECULATION APPEARED IN PRESS AS EARLY AS SATURDAY, JUNE 22 AND STORY IS LEAKING FAST. COORDINATION OF RELEASE COULD BE HANDLED EFFICIENTLY WITH ITALIAN EMBASSY WASHINGTON.

4. EMBASSY PREPARING SUGGESTED LANGUAGE FOR ARRIVAL STATEMENT, RESPONSE TO TOAST AT PRESIDENT'S LUNCH, AND DEPARTURE STATEMENT. EMBASSY IS PREPARING SUGGESTED TOPICS FOR TALKS WITH LEONE, MORO AND RUMOR, AS WELL AS TOPICS WE ANTICIPATE ITALIANS WILL RAISE. VOLPE

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